Public submission

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Topic 1. Sustainability of current and future forestry operations in NSW

It is well known that the logging of native forests is not sustainable. And hasn't been sustainable for decades.

The forestry corporation's techniques of clear felling, then burning and spraying all sorts of herbicides afterwards leaves no room for any natural recovery.

If the general population of Australia would know how the land is actually mistreated again and again I think they'd be outraged. Rightly so.

The majority of the timber (more than 80 %) is turned into wood chips and often exported. And to hear that it was even suggested to supply Redbank Power station with woodchips is outrages and utterly unacceptable.

Did I already mention that this devastating industry is heavily subsidized by tax payer's money? To the tune of 11 million in 2022 (or was it 2021?)

So - we as a nation pay a private enterprise to destroy the little natural HABITAT that's left - sending a huge number of our unique species closer to extinction.

This state sanctioned environmental vandalism needs to stop.

Protective measures have been proven to be totally ineffective (or ignored?)

FCNSW have recorded 4663 incidents on its Accidentally Felled Trees database a few years back....many of them so called HABITAT TREES.....

Topic 2. Environmental and cultural values of forests, including threatened species and Aboriginal cultural heritage values

Our forests clearly offer important habitat for a huge number of plants and creatures. Not to mention that they produce the oxygen we need to live. And the spiritual value they have for the first nations people and other members of our society is not acknowledged enough.

Topic 3. Demand for timber products, particularly as relates to NSW housing, construction, mining, transport and retail

The timber demand relating to housing construction is more that 80% covered be plantation timber.

To close the gap we have to be more inventive in our construction industry. Either using more metal, concrete or other materials. Concrete for instance can be produced using a variety of environmentally friendly substances.!

Topic 4. The future of softwood and hardwood plantations and the continuation of Private Native Forestry in helping meet timber supply needs

Plantation timber is already the main backbone of our industries and should reach the capacity to provide 100% soon.

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Topic 5. The role of State Forests in maximising the delivery of a range of environmental, economic and social outcomes and options for diverse management, including Aboriginal forest management models

I see the main function of state forests as providing bitterly needed and scarcely available habitat. I'm a member of an native animal rescue and care society and know how difficult it is getting to find suitable areas for releases once an animal is healthy and fit again.

We humans might have to step back for a while and make do with the areas we now have to go mountain biking etc. These projects can grow when we have more forested land again. After the monster bushfire from 2019 / 2020 not much forest has been left.